

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1153

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, UR

SUBJ: CHANGES AT OPENING DAY OF USSR SUPREME

SOVIET

1. KAZAKH PARTY LEADER KUNAYEV WAS THE ONLY MEMBER OF TOP LEADERSHIP WHO DID NOT ATTEND THE OPENING DAY OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET. HE LAST APPEARED IN PUBLIC ON MAY 23 AND FAILED TO GIVE HIS PRE-ELECTION SPEECH IN PERSON ON JUNE 10 BECAUSE OF ILLNESS. BOTH THE CPSU PLENUM AND THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION ARE COMMAND PERFORMANCES FOR LEADERS OF KUNAYEV'S RANK, AND NONAPPEARANCE IS A SIGNAL OF A SERIOUS PROBLEM, IN THIS CASE MOST LIKELY MEDICAL. HOWEVER, FAILURE OF CPSU PLENUM TO TAKE ACTION SUGGESTS HOPES FOR EVENTUAL RECOVERY.

2. A CONSUMER GOODS COMMISSION WAS ADDED TO THE EXISTING 13 PERMANENT COMMISSIONS IN EACH HOUSE. CHANGES IN COMMISSION CHAIRMEN WERE EXTENSIVE: 7 OF THE 13 WERE REPLACED IN THE COUNCIL OF NATIONALITIES AND 6 OF 13 WERE REPLACED IN THE COUNCIL OF THE UNION. LATERAL TRANSFERS ACCOUNTED FOR THREE OTHER SHIFTS.

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3. CHAIRMAN YADGAR NASRIDINOVA AND THREE OF HER

DEPUTIES WERE DROPPED FROM THE COUNCIL OF NATIONALITIES.
VITALIY PETROVICH RUBEN, A LATVIAN, REPLACED NASRIDDINOVA.
ONLY TWO DEPUTY CHAIRMEN WERE DROPPED FROM THE COUNCIL
OF THE UNION, BUT ONE OF THEM WAS TADZHIK PARTY BOSS
DZHABAR RASULOV.

4. KEYNOTES SPEECHES GIVEN BY OLDEST DEPUTY IN EACH
HOUSE STRONGLY EMPHASIZED IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-AMERICAN
RELATIONS AND ALSO FOCUSSED ON US CONGRESS. HOPE FOR
EXCHANGE VISITS WITH CONGRESS HAVE BEEN HIGH
SINCE VISIT TO US BY BORIS PONOMAREV, AND KEYNOTE
SPEECHES REFLECT THIS.
STOESSEL

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